

Message Text

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ORIGIN STR-06

INFO OCT-02 EA-12 IO-14 ISO-00 AGRE-00 SP-02 USIA-15
AID-05 EB-08 NSC-05 TRSE-00 SS-15 OMB-01 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 FRB-01 L-03
/100 R

DRAFTED BY STR:JSTARKEY:USDA:RSCHROETER:JVM
APPROVED BY EB/OT/TA:DRPATTERSON
FCA/FAS:TOYLOE
FCA/F&V:GSINDELAR
FMD/F&V:RFITZSIMMONDS
OA/FAS:TSAYLOR
EA/J:HCOCHRAN

-----015419 252352Z /73

P R 252259Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 020564

USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD, JA

SUBJECT:EXPANSION OF QUOTAS FOR ORANGES AND CITRUS JUICES

REFS: (A) TOKYO 593, (B) TOKYO 753

EMBASSY SHOULD SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM GOJ OF THE FOLLOWING
POINTS RE EXPANSION OF QUOTAS ON FRESH ORANGES AND
CITRUS JUICES.

1. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT THE GOJ WILL INCREASE IMPORTS
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OF FRESH ORANGES BY EXPANDING THE ANNUAL QUOTA TO 22,500
MT AND ESTABLISHING A NEW 22,500 MT SPECIAL SEASONAL
QUOTA DURING THE JUNE 1 - AUGUST 31 PERIOD. IN PAST
ANNUAL QUOTA HAS BEEN ALLOCATED 77 PERCENT IN FIRST 6
MONTHS OF JFY AND BALANCE IN SECOND. WILL THIS BE
CONTINUED OR WILL QUOTA BE ALLOCATED ON ANNUAL BASIS?

2. WE UNDERSTAND FROM REF B THAT SENATOR STONE HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY NAKAGAWA DURING WHICH STONE EXPRESSED CONCERN FOR THE ABILITY OF FLORIDA CITRUS GROWERS TO COMPETE FOR A SHARE OF THE QUOTA EXPANSION BECAUSE OF THEIR EARLY HARVEST. WE ALONG WITH THE U.S. CITRUS INDUSTRY SHARE SENATOR STONE'S CONCERN AND BELIEVE IT CAN BE BEST ACCOMMODATED BY EXTENDING THIS SPECIAL SEASONAL QUOTA PERIOD TO INCLUDE APRIL AND MAY PERIOD. THE 22,500 MT SEASONAL QUOTA WOULD, THEREFORE, APPLY FROM APRIL 1 THRU AUGUST 31.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO SEEK ASSURANCES THAT THE GOJ WOULD ADMINISTER THE ORANGE QUOTA SO THAT ALL U.S. SUPPLIERS HAVE AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE FOR SALE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE RESTRICTIVE LICENSING SYSTEM ON ORANGES HAS PREVENTED SOME U.S. SUPPLIERS FROM PARTICIPATING IN QUOTA ALLOTMENTS AND HAS PERMITTED SMALL GROUP OF IMPORTERS TO CONTROL VOLUME. OPEN LICENSE SYSTEM IN WHICH ALL SUPPLIERS CAN COMPETE FOR AVAILABLE QUOTA ALLOTMENT WOULD ELIMINATE THIS PROBLEM.

4. WE UNDERSTAND THAT CITRUS JUICE QUOTA WILL BE ALLOCATED AS FOLLOWS: 3,000 TONS FOR ORANGE JUICE AND 1,000 TONS FOR GRAPEFRUIT JUICE. WILL ORANGE JUICE ALLOCATION BE DIVIDED BETWEEN JUICE FOR BLENDING AND JUICE FOR ALL USES? IF SO, WHAT WILL BE THE AMOUNTS FOR EACH USE?
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5. OUR VIEWS ON FORMATION AND ACTIVITIES OF CITRUS STUDY GROUP WILL FOLLOW BY SEPTEL. VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPORT CONTROLS, CITRUS FRUITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE020564
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JSTARKEY:USDA:RSCHROETER:JVM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780038-0156
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780122/aaaaasrs.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4e5009e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN STR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 TOKYO 593, 78 TOKYO 753
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3714306
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXPANSION OF QUOTAS FOR ORANGES AND CITRUS JUICES
TAGS: ETRD, JA
To: TOKYO USMTN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4e5009e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014